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Diana T Fritz 06/05/2007 10:40:22 AM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

February 02, 2003

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 553 - UNKNOWN)
TAGS: OIIP, KMDR
Captions: None
Subject: MEDIA REACTION: IRAQ
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 00553

SIPDIS
CXABU:
ACTION: PAO
INFO: AMB ECON POL DCM
Laser1:
ACTION: PAO

DISSEMINATION: PAO
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: CDA:TWILLIAMS
DRAFTED: PAO:AHOSHAN
CLEARED: PAO:TPONCE

VZCZCADI481
OO RUEHC RUENAAA RUEKJCS RUEHZN RUEHLO RUEHFR
RHRMDAB RUCJACC RUCQSOC
DE RUEHAD #0553 0331338
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 021338Z FEB 03
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8208
RUENAAA/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEHZM/GCC COLLECTIVE
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0569
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0633
RHRMDAB/COMUSNAVCENT
RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//CCPA//
RUCQSOC/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//PA//

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 000553

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ARP, NEA/PPD, INR; NEA/RA
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA
USCINCCENT FOR POLAD
LONDON FOR GOLDRICH; PARIS FOR O'FRIEL

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OIIP KMDR TC
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: IRAQ

¶1. SUMMARY: LOCAL MEDIA CONTINUED TO COMMENT NEGATIVELY ON PRESIDENT BUSH'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS. ONE EDITORIAL CALLED FOR AN ARAB SUMMIT TO ELIMINATE THE NEW INTERNATIONAL LAW OF THE JUNGLE. ANOTHER EDITORIAL CLAIMED THAT AMERICA IS THE ONLY NATION THAT PREVIOUSLY USED NUCLEAR AND OTHER

INTERNATIONALLY BANNED WEAPONS. OTHER EDITORIALS NOTED THAT BUSH'S JUSTIFICATIONS FOR WAR ON IRAQ ARE NEITHER CONVINCING OR TRUTHFUL. END SUMMARY.

¶12. COMMENTING ON AN ARAB POSITION NEEDED TO AVERT WAR IN IRAQ, SHARJAH-BASED PAN-ARAB DAILY "AL-KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED ON 2/1:

"...AN ARAB SUMMIT [IS NEEDED] THAT AIMS TO PROTECT [OUR] DESTINY AND SPARES ARABS, AND THEIR FUTURE, GRAVE CONSEQUENCES. WHAT IS NEEDED NOW IS TO HAVE THE WILL TO ELIMINATE THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE PROMOTED BY BUSH, BLAIR, AND SHARON."

¶13. CHIEF EDITOR OF THE BUSINESS-ORIENTED DUBAI-BASED ARABIC DAILY "AL-BAYAN" EDITORIALIZED ON 2/1:

"...AMERICA IS THE ONLY NATION IN THE WORLD THAT USED ATOMIC BOMBS TO DESTROY THE JAPANESE CITIES OF NAGASAKI AND HIROSHIMA. AMERICA HAS ALSO EXPERIENCED THIS IN AFGHANISTAN AND VIOLATED THE GENEVA TREATIES REGARDING INTERNATIONALLY BANNED WEAPONS ... IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS PRESIDENT BUSH DELIVERED A MESSAGE OF WAR ..."

¶14. UNDER THE HEADLINE "GIVE US YOUR EVIDENCE," ABU DHABI-BASED PAN-ARAB DAILY "AKHBAR AL-ARAB" EDITORIALIZED ON 2/1:

"... WASHINGTON ENDEAVORS TO FABRICATE JUSTIFICATIONS TO LEGALIZE ITS ILLEGAL WAR AGAINST IRAQ DESPITE THE SWEEPING GLOBAL OPPOSITION FOUND EVEN INSIDE AMERICA ITSELF. COMMENTING ON BUSH'S WAR PLANS, CONGRESSMAN TED KENNEDY SAID THAT AMERICA HAS TURNED FROM A MODEL OF FREEDOM INTO A SYMBOL OF AGGRESSION AND TYRANNY. A CONGRESS MEMBER AND NOT AN IRAQI PARLIAMENTARIAN MADE THIS COMMENT."

¶15. UNDER THE HEADLINE "PROOF LACKS TRUTH", "AL-KHALEEJ" EDITORIALIZED ON 2/2:

"IT IS SO CLEAR THAT THE U.S. IS SEARCHING FOR ANY CLAIMS, NO MATTER HOW TRIVIAL AND DEVOID OF TRUTH, TO JUSTIFY AN AGGRESSION AGAINST IRAQ ... BASED ON THIS, ALL PROOF POWELL IS PRESENTING ON FEBRUARY 5 TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL BE FABRICATED INTELLIGENCE DATA THAT WOULD DELUDE NO ONE. THIS WAS ALSO THE CASE IN BUSH'S SPEECH FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH BLAIR ON A LINK BETWEEN THE IRAQI REGIME AND THE 9/11 ATTACKS."

WILLIAMS